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# NURSING IN MISSION STATIONS



[This department has a two-fold purpose,—to keep nurses in this country in touch with the work of missionary nurses, and to put missionary nurses in touch with each other, for an interchange of ideas, questions, and suggestions. All nurses engaged in mission work, of every creed and country, are invited to contribute to its columns.]

## THE HANYANG HOSPITAL OF THE AMERICAN BAPTIST FOREIGN MISSION SOCIETY

By GERTRUDE PUGH YATES

Graduate of the Children's Homœopathic Hospital, Philadelphia, and of the  
New York Polyclinic

BEING very much interested in the hospital here, I have felt that I would like other nurses to know about it also. Before I came to China I imagined that the home nurses were the only capable ones, and it was a great surprise to me to find how capable the Chinese and Japanese nurses are.

I spent six weeks in our hospital here and so came in close contact with them, and will never forget the little girl who cared for me. She was gentle and kind and very efficient. She passed her examinations this fall with high marks and is first on the list of all the nurses who took the examination. There are five female nurses and ten male nurses connected with the hospital. Miss L. J. Crawford, a graduate of Lynn, Massachusetts, Hospital, is now studying the language and will take charge of the nurses in the fall.

Just now the women have a ward and two private rooms in the men's hospital building and so there are a great many difficulties to surmount, but they are hoping to have a separate building within the next few years. This ward accommodates fourteen patients, but now they have twenty-three in it. The cases come and Doctor Bretthauer feels that she cannot refuse them, so she does her best to help them all. The Chinese are continually gaining confidence in the foreign doctors. Last year 237 operations were performed, and 5958 patients were treated in the out-patient department. There were only nine deaths. Let me tell you of a patient or two.

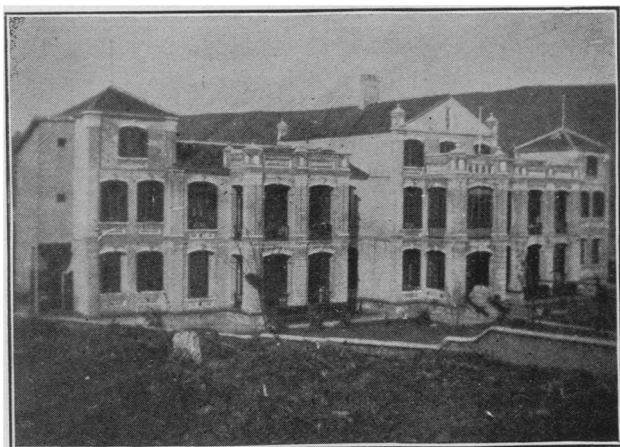
There was a little girl who grew totally blind by the time she was six years old. So long as her father lived she was cared for, but after he died and the mother married again, the little girl's stepfather would

not tolerate so useless a child in the house. The mother then took her little blind girl and put her on the door-step of one of the Chinese foundling homes in Hankow. When the manager found her there the next morning he gave her over to the care of a woman, paying her for the child's food. This woman, however, had more love for money than for the little girl, so she put her out into the streets of Hanyang to beg. By and by the winter came, and the child got so cold sitting in the street all day, that her feet were frost-bitten and then began to decay. When she was brought into the hospital there was nothing to do but amputate them. She was a bright cheerful girl and soon learned to memorize hymns and verses that were taught her. She was a lesson in gratitude to all who knew her, a thirteen-year-old forsaken girl, no eyes, no feet, yet lying contented on her bed, singing all day. She is now in a Christian school for the blind, where she is perfectly happy.

There was another patient, a boy, who had a number of ills, one being a stone in the bladder. His family gave him up as dead and placed him in his coffin. The lid was left partially open because the boy's grandmother, who lived at a distance, desired a last look at her grandson. After he lay in the coffin a whole day, the woman who was watching by his side was startled to hear a sigh. The relatives thought that the boy's spirit had come back to earth and was hovering over his body and that the spirit did the sighing, consequently they were exceedingly frightened. After a while, however, they got up courage enough to take the child out of the coffin and place him on the bed. Now the question was, what should they do with the unconscious boy? They had already called every Chinese doctor they knew to see him, but without avail. At this stage the mother took the responsibility of bringing the boy to our hospital. With careful nursing and two operations he got well, so they had to sell the coffin to some one else. Not long ago this patient called at the hospital looking the picture of health and wearing the very same coat which he had on while in the coffin.

#### ITEMS

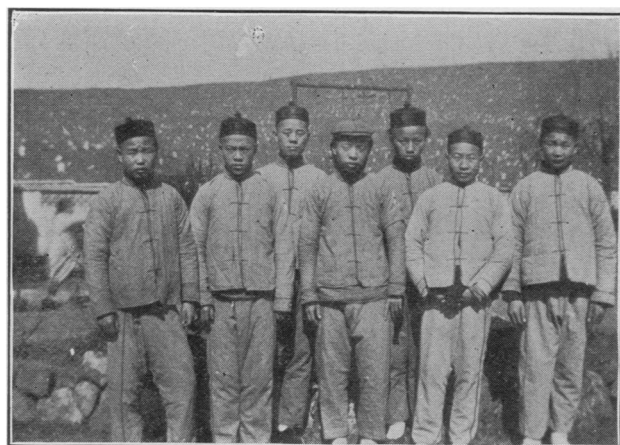
A THICK volume, with leaves of soft Chinese paper, reached our desk recently, and proved to be the long-promised Chinese edition of Mrs. Robb's text-book on nursing. It has title pages, table of contents, and page headings in both English and Chinese, but the text is wholly Chinese. As a frontispiece appears a speaking likeness of Dr. Eleanor Chesnut, its first translator, and the volume has an added touch of pathos in that when the book appeared both she and Mrs. Robb had ended their work here. Dr. Ruth Bliss Boggs, of Canton, who completed the translation, tells the story of the book in her preface:



**HOSPITAL BUILDING.**



**DR. BRETHAUER AND NURSES.**



**MALE NURSES.**

"This translation was commenced by Dr. Eleanor Chesnut, herself a graduate nurse of the Illinois Training School, Chicago. Her work was cut short by her sad death at Lien Chow, Kwang Tung Province, where her hospital for women and children was located and where she had worked for eleven years.

"The twelve chapters she had translated have been revised to correspond to the third English edition, and the translation completed. Through the generosity of a friend of Dr. Chesnut and of the work of missions at large, the book is now published as a memorial to Dr. Chesnut. It is hoped that it may prove helpful in the training of nurses from among the Chinese who may well emulate her beautiful life of self-denying labor for others.

"The terminology follows the English-Chinese Lexicon of medical terms, published by the Medical Missionary Association."

Dr. Boggs's work in completing and revising the book has been carried on in addition to all the manifold occupations of the medical missionary, and has been a labor of love, as she was a warm personal friend of Dr. Chesnut.

A BOOKLET entitled "Treasures of Darkness" contains the ninth annual report of the Door of Hope at Shanghai, China. The rescue work it describes has its headquarters in a humble native house over whose door is a sign inviting any girl who wishes to escape from a life of shame to enter. The girls of the vicinity are warned by those who are making money from their misery that the foreigners will torture them and that they will never escape alive, yet many do come in one way or another and many are transformed to respectable, useful women. Two hundred and thirteen have been received during the past year. This first house seems to answer as a receiving home, and the girls and women are later transferred to the other homes maintained by the society, of which there are several. That for the children is on the cottage plan, five houses of twenty children each. Finally, there is an industrial home where various kinds of occupation are taught, which render the girls self-supporting. Very little children are sold into a life of shame in China and are most cruelly treated, so one can see how humane and necessary such an institution is for them, quite apart from its helpfulness to those older. It is not clear how this work is maintained, partly, it seems, by the *Christian Herald*.

*Woman's Work* for July, and a Baptist magazine for June (with the title cut off), both give the same excellent picture of the first class of native nurses to graduate (in August, 1909) in the Philippine Islands from the Union Mission Hospital, which is under Baptist and Presby-

terian auspices. The account of the work of the nurses is most encouraging, and their faces are bright and promising.

*Spirit of Missions* for July tells of the appointment of Lillian M. Owen, of New York, to work as a missionary nurse in the University Hospital, Manila, in the room of Miss Freese, resigned.

*The Missionary Link* for July tells of the first graduating class of nurses, at Jhansi, India, in January, four in number. "Radha, one of these, was married a few weeks later; Rosie is our head compounder at the Dispensary, a position she has filled very acceptably for some time; Jane is the head nurse in the Mary S. Ackerman Hoyt Hospital, which is now used entirely for medical cases, and also has oversight of the children's ward, and any patients we may have in outside buildings, as is sometimes found necessary. Wahidan is head nurse in the Maria Ackerman Hoyt Hospital, and also has charge of the operating room.

"We have made a change in the uniforms of the head nurses. While the others have black and white striped jackets and black bordered *saris*, they have plain white jackets and red borders to their *saris*. We are finding the arrangement a good one. Besides the two head nurses, we have ten other girls—four seniors, four juniors, and two probationers. We have them serve a probation period of three months, and the training course is three years from the time they are accepted. We find it very hard to get girls with the educational qualifications we would like. Six of our newer girls are from the Marathi country, and when they come to us cannot speak Urdu and not much English, so we have daily classes for them in both languages, in addition to their lectures. They are quite promising girls, and we hope will make good nurses, as they seem quiet, obedient and teachable, which is always encouraging."

AN urgent appeal for two nurses comes from India. Dr. Mary R. Noble writes, "I am eager to find two nurses of experience in managing and superintending, who know they can work together, and who can be unqualifiedly recommended for work in a mission hospital. The missionary motive must, of course, be paramount, in any candidate, and excellent health,—with energy, capability, and sufficient education, culture, and refinement so that they may take their place in the missionary community with ease and pleasure to themselves and others." We will gladly furnish the exact address to any two nurses who would like to enter into correspondence with Dr. Noble in regard to the position and work.

The following statistics of medical missions were given at the Edinburgh Conference: 111 medical colleges, 92 nurses' training schools, 1574 hospitals and dispensaries, 88 leper asylums, 21 homes for untainted children of lepers, 25 institutions for the blind and deaf mutes.